

**Guidelines for Rewards for Virginia School Divisions  
Under the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001***

Authority

The *No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB)* of 2001, Sections 1116 and 1117, describe components of an achievement award program states must have for Title I schools and that they may have for local school divisions that exceed adequate yearly progress (AYP) requirements.

Section 1116(c)(2) of the law states::

“In the case of a local educational agency that, for 2 consecutive years, has exceeded adequate yearly progress as defined in the State plan under section 1111(b)(2), the State may make rewards of the kinds described in section 1117 to the agency.”

Sec. 200.50(b) of the final Title I regulations states:

“...If an LEA has exceeded AYP as defined under Sec. 200.13 through 200.20 for two consecutive years, the SEA may--

- (1) Reserve funds in accordance with Sec. 200.100(c); and
- (2) Make rewards of the kinds described under section 1117 of the ESEA.”

Section 1117 of the law describes components of an achievement award program states must have for schools that exceed adequate yearly progress (AYP) requirements.

Proposed Recommendation: Virginia School Division Rewards

Any school division in Virginia may be eligible for designation as a “Highly Distinguished School Division” or “Distinguished School Division,” regardless of whether or not it receives Title I funds. Criteria for such designation and accompanying rewards are shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Criteria and rewards for “Distinguished School Divisions”

<b>Designation</b>	<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Reward</b>
Highly Distinguished	Makes adequate yearly progress (AYP) for two consecutive years by exceeding all annual measurable objectives <i>AND</i> closes the achievement gap by maintaining or increasing performance of all students and by increasing the performance of each subgroup in comparison to all students in both reading/language arts and mathematics	Press Release Resolution Federal monies, as available, to showcase success and assist other school divisions
Distinguished	Makes adequate yearly progress (AYP) for two consecutive years by exceeding all annual measurable objectives	Press Release Resolution Federal monies, as available, to showcase success and assist other school divisions